admitted into the midwifery and nursing classes and given stipends. Stipends should be given also to Sambavar pupils in the Fitter's class, Weaving class, Survey class and Vaccination class. A special examination should be held for the students who had studied in Forms I to VI in English schools and in Classes V to VII in Vernacular schools.

The Protector of the Depressed Classes should be a separate officer, as the present officer was not able to devote sufficient time for the sake of the depressed classes in the midst of his other official work as Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The Protector of the Depressed Classes should be chosen from among the Sambavars.

The Sirkar Vakils should be directed to conduct cases free in which the Sambavars were involved, in the Magistrates' courts, Village Panchayat courts and Bench Magistrates' courts.

Co-operative societies exclusively for Sambavars should be orgainsed and a Sambavar Group Secretary should be appointed on salary to instruct the Sambavars in the usefulness of Co-operative societies.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Yesudian, I have been searching in my mind to try and discover anything that you have not asked for, and if there are many like you in the Sambavar community, I am quite sure that the Sambavar community will not require any protector. (*Laughter.*) Your representations so far as they are general and touch the community as a whole will receive consideration. So far as they are personal and individualised, they will be ignored.

182. The economic development of the State.

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Member, Quilon taluk, Group II*) said that the financial stability of the State depended not merely in maintaining a proportion between the expenditure and revenues of the State, but also on the individual and collective wealth of the people. The Travancore Government had hitherto made no substantial effort to increase the wealth of the people. The efforts made by the several development departments were not adequate to solve the problem. The want of co-ordination of the activities of these departments was also another drawback of the present system.

In regard to Agriculture, a commission to find out the facilities for irrigation in all parts of Travancore and for preparing a scheme for improving minor irrigation should be appointed. Central Travancore and North Travancore were completely neglected in respect of agricultural facilities. Minor irrigation should be co-ordinated with the activities of the Agricultural Department. Only the Director of Agriculture should advise the Government where a minor irrigation work required improvement. The granting of agricultural loans should rightly form part of the duties of the Agricultural Department. At least, he should be the authority to recommend the grant. As most of the ryots are poor, manure and seeds should be given on credit to them. More funds should be allowed for the grant of agricultural and industrial loans. The Land Colonisation Scheme should be worked out by the Agricultural Department or by the Economic Development Board. Agricultural implements should be given for the ryots' use on the hire system. The export of *punnac* and other manures from the State should be prohibited. Large extents of land lay as waste in the possession of speculators. To check this evil, lands should be registered only on condition that they would be brought under cultivation within a fixed period of years.

A scheme should be prepared for planting jack, mango and other fruit-bearing trees as avenue trees on the sides of roads. They would be a source of profit to the Government besides being useful for shade.

Most of the cottage industries were dying out for want of protection from the Government. The Government were now properly helping only the weaving industry. The mat industry was not properly protected. The Government should take particular interest in organising co-operative societies among artisans such as carpenters and blacksmiths. In Japan, many things were being made with bamboo and *eatta*. Plenty of these materials were available in the Travancore Forests. In

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Nizam's Dominions, making of parchment paper was a purely hand-made industry. A few families from Japan should be induced to settle down in Travancore to demonstrate the industries. The Government should demonstrate factory industries. Industrial schools should be started in different parts of the country to locate all possible industries in particular areas. Industrial and Agricultural schools were not working quite as well as could be wished. There were no statistics to show what percentage of the students trained in those schools took to the profession for which they had received training. As it was, a course of training in these schools meant nothing more than a passport to Government employment, a circumstance which aggravated the problem of unemployment.

The work done by the Co-operative Department was good; but it can do more. The people should be educated in methods of co-operation. A book on the subject should be published by the Government, and the Economic Development Board might be asked to get it prepared on payment of a decent remuneration to the author. Agricultural and Industrial Co-operative Societies should be started and worked on a large scale. In regard to Joint Stock Companies on which the people had lost faith, the Government should investigate the causes of failure. The Companies Regulation should be amended so as to afford more effective supervision of these societies. The Registrar should be a member of the Economic Development Board and the place should be held by a person who knew the industrial conditions of the country and who could give proper advice.

Most of the important officers of the Forest Department were living in towns. They should work in the forests and their activities should be concentrated in the reserved forests and timber depots. The omission to develop communication in the forests caused considerable difficulties. The collection and sale of minor forest produce was not satisfactory. The rules relating to royal trees were nothing short of invasions of rights to private property. The free-pass system was highly inconvenient. In regard to this matter, the recommendations of the Forest Rule Committee should be given effect to.

The Member was of the opinion that rubber was a prosperous industry in Travancore and could very well be taxed by levying an export duty. So also the question relating to the imposition of a duty on tea.

It was high time for the Government to think of revising the agreement with the Kannan Devan Hills Produce Company. Several square miles of land were in their possession to which as a matter of right the Government were entitled and from which a substantial revenue could be raised and the money utilised for the development of irrigation. Vexatious demands like the market-rates could then be avoided.

Quoting a passage from the discusssions in the Legislative Council on a resolution on the subject of amalgamation of Development Departments, the Member said that the constant plea of want of funds to carry out any useful scheme of work should soon be done away with. There should be some person who could take a broad view of things. If a board, it should serve for a term of five years in order to ensure a continuity of policy. A board, like the one organised for the Medical Department, was necessary to organise the Development Departments. It should be given administrative powers also. Necessarily, it should be a body with an official majority. An officer of proved merit and distinction should be its President.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Raman Pillai, you have offered some very useful suggestions for the general good of the country and the well-being of its people. Your idea of the Revenue Department acting in co-ordination with the Agricultural Department in the matter of loans is a very excellent one. What you said about avenues is also interesting. We have already taken that question up. I am entirely with you in your opinion that we should put a stop to speculation in land and ensure cultivation of whatever has been taken up. All these things that you have spoken about will be borne in mind. But I am afraid it is not possible, at any rate for me, at present, so far as I can see my way, to secure a revision of the K. D. H. P. Company's agreement. That has been made for 999 years and a contract cannot be revoked by any one of

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the parties. Your idea of the Development Board will not be lost sight of when I take up the question of reconstituting the Department of Industries. I do not promise to give you a Board. But I will consider your suggestions.

183. Unemployment relief.

THE REV. FR. A. J. MICHAEL (*Member, Municipal Council, Kayankulam*) said that the body of the Travancore State was stricken with several diseases. The root cause of the diseases was unemployment. The objective of the students here was either Government service or the vakil's profession. This was due to a belief that these occupations were more dignified and remunerative than agriculture or any other industry. That one could live with as much self-respect by following agriculture or any other profession should be proved by the Government. This could be done by adopting a policy of administration under which the Government should be responsible to the agriculturists and other industrialists. The Government should help those who come out with degrees or diplomas in agriculture and other industries to follow the profession for which they were trained ; they should not be given any Government appointment. Through these experts, the people would begin to realise that they could get on quite as honestly without Government service.

The educational system should be adapted to give instruction in industrial matters. The subjects of study generally followed the conditions in Europe. They should approximate to the conditions prevailing in Travancore. There should be more industrial schools and these institutions should be made self-supporting. The pupils should receive practical training in the industries, and, in every school, every student should be given compulsory training in some industrial subject.

Suitable modifications should be made in the Land Colonisation Rules. It would be hard if, under the Rules, lands were assigned only to co-operative societies or to joint stock companies. *Puduval* lands should be assigned to all applicants.

By means of co-operative societies, agriculture and other industries should be spread in the country. Those following the agricultural profession should also be encouraged by small loans. Tax on land also should be reduced. There should also be a system of oldage pension to help the agriculturists after their 60th year of age when they could no longer work in the field.

Pepper, copra, *punnac*, etc., were being exported. These raw products should be made finished articles and only the latter should be exported. In that case, the profits would be higher and the waste could be made use of here as manure. If this could be done, the amount of imports also could be reduced.

Agriculture, the backbone of the country, should be adequately supported by irrigation tanks, channels, roads, etc.

Foreigner's should on no account be imported for appointments in the State service.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Rev. Fr. Michael, all your representations will receive due consideration.

184. Representation of the cardamom planters on the Council.

MR. S. P. SULTAN AHMED BADRUDDIN ROWTHER (*Member, Nominated*) said that the cardamom planters of Devicolam, living as they did in the forests, were subject to many and several grievances. They were living always in dread of wild beasts. They had none of the conveniences of the people living in the plains, in towns and villages. The Government should kindly redress their grievances and afford them the necessary facilities for carrying on their pursuits. The Excise Department was making new rules every now and then and applying them to the great inconvenience of the people there. The Forest Department would not allow them to gather grass and other materials for putting up temporary sheds, nor would they allow their cattle to graze in the forests. The Public Works Department did not attend to their needs or provide adequate facilities for communication.

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